

With examiner's permission, the preparation of a compact disc with the source code listed will be deferred until the allowance of allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Guthrie (USPN 6,266,681 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The present invention, as recited in amended claim 4, is a method for extending the widget set of a script language platform to include plug-ins designed to interface with a WEB browser application. Thus, the widget set is extended to include the large installed base of browser plug-in applications.

A special extension command is added to the script language having a syntax that includes a source locator parameter. A extension to the script language platform includes program code for parsing a script to identify the extension command and the source locator parameter. Program code in the extension is then invoked to fetch objects, such as data and program objects, referenced by the source locator parameter, using standard internet techniques. A special window, that can be manipulated by the script, is created in the script language platform interface and the plug-in provides interactive processing of referenced objects, under control of the script, in the special window.

The AAPA describes standard browser plug-ins and interfaces and standard script language platforms. The browser interface parses a hypermedia document and automatically invokes an external object when an <EMBED> tag is parsed. A script language platform includes an interpreter for executing a script and a graphical interface. Widgets are designed which can be included in the interface and manipulated by the script.

The Guthrie reference discloses a system where code can be inserted into an HTML document being displayed by a browser. When the code is executed a component is conditionally inserted into the displayed document.

The examiner states that the AAPA discloses all the claimed steps except for creating a child window. Guthrie is cited for disclosing the claimed window. It is further stated that the claimed combination would have been obvious in view of these references. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

There is no disclosure in any of the cited references of the claimed steps of parsing a script to identify an extension command and a source locator parameter. The browser described in the AAPI parses a text document to identify an <EMBED> text tag.

Further, there is no disclosure of providing plug-in extension code for a scripting language platform to fetch objects reference by the locator parameter and allowing the plug-in to operate in a window of the script language platform interface and be manipulated by the script.

Further, there is no suggestion in the references that would suggest modifying the teaching of the references to achieve the claimed combination. The web browser performs the very specific functions of parsing and displaying web documents and retrieving documents when links are selected. Web browser plug-ins are specifically designed to interact with the web browser API.

On the other hands script language platforms are designed to provide extensible functionality useful in all programming environments. Many widgets have been designed specifically for a particular script language platform to extend the interface.

Neither reference suggests, to the person of ordinary skill in the art, the claimed technique of extending the set of script language platform widgets to include the entire existing installed base of browser plug-in applications. The presently claimed invention is a significant advance that extends the script language platform without requiring the creation of new code.

CONCLUSION

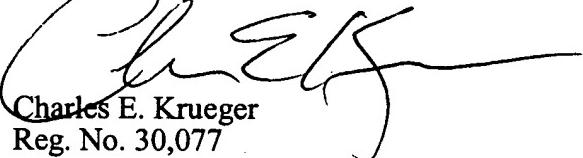
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Doyle
Application No.: 09/481,984
Page 5

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (925) 944-3320.

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX

4. (Once amended) A computer program product forming an extension of a scripting language platform that extends the set of widgets used in the graphical script language platform interface to include web browser plug-in applications designed to extend the functionality of web browser programs, where an extension command is added to the scripting language and with the extension command syntax including a source locator parameter, with the computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium [structure] for storing plug-in-interface extension program code for extending the functionality of a script interpreter platform by employing web-browser plug-in applications as widget components within the graphical script language program interface [based programs], said plug-in-interface extension program code comprising:

parsing program code for causing a computer to parse [the] a script to identify an extension command and the source locator parameter included in the syntax of the extension command;

fetching program code for, when the extension command is parsed, fetching objects referenced by the source locator parameter using standard internet procedures;

[standard embed tag parameters to be passed as part of a scripting language command call;

program code for causing a computer to fetch data objects referenced in “SRC” parameters standard conventions (e.g.: http or file access);

program code for causing a computer to parse script to identify embed text formats and to automatically invoke the browser plug-in application to display and interact with embedded objects, whereby those embedded objects and their associated plug-in applications are treated by the scripting language platform as widgets]

program code for causing the computer to allow the plug-in application to display and provide interactive processing of a data and/or program object, referenced by the source locator parameter, within a plug-in-interface

extension-controlled window of the graphical script language platform interface;
and

program code for causing the computer to allow
manipulation, under control of the script, of the browser plug-in application so
that that the browser-plug in application can be manipulated as a widget native to
the script language platform.